

Innovate – Care – Invest by Values-driven entrepreneurship



Geneva Agape Foundation
Annual Report 2021

2021: A Year of Hope and Challenges Message from the Leadership

The year of 2021 was a year of hope for a better life after the shocking year of the Covid-Pandemic 2020 when the world stopped to move with significant consequences on all world populations and economies. The vaccines allowed for some activities to restart, yet, strict rules have shaped the movement of people generating strong manifestations against vaccines and other control measures conditioning the freedom and various aspects of daily life.

In spite of all difficulties, 2021 ended on a more positive note that when it started, as both the public and private sector have succeeded to develop successful coping strategies to mitigate the negative impact of the ongoing pandemic. While the consequences of the traumatic period of 2020 and 2021 are still visible everywhere, silver linings were visible at the end of 2021 and beginning of 2022 with a mild variant of Covid and businesses opening as usual. Economies are still facing major problems due to heavy indebting and the global geopolitical situation added to the uncertainty of the last months of 2021.

GAF also faced a financially challenging year. A very substantial yearly donation for five years was promised to GAF, but in summer 2021 it became clear that it will not arrive. This led to the need to substantially reduce staff and programs. This is where spiritual life is more needed as it provides a different perspective



Dr Nicoleta Acatrinei Executive Director of GAF

Prof. Dr. Christoph Stückelberger President of GAF

and reading of the events. As spiritual life is anchored in timeless human values, it can provide that fixe point of reference so needed in the middle of confusion, lack of means and visibility.

The Board and staff of GAF are thankful for all support of individuals and GAF partner organisations in this difficult year 2021 and for the future.

GAF Summary of Activities

This 2021 GAF has drafted The Strategy 2021-2024 of the Geneva Agape Foundation (GAF) and it shaped the activity from June 2021 to March 2022. Due to extreme financial constraints, Dr. Nicoleta Acatrinei, the Executive Director of GAF had reshaped in short time the activity towards a more entrepreneurial style activity. There was a need to develop new activities. The objective of her initiatives was twofold:

- to extend GAF visibility and audience by translating with the help of her team and of volunteers the website of the foundation in four languages covering more than 90 % of world population.
- to develop ten projects along the three types of programs in order to initiate activities susceptible to attract funding.
- to increase the presence of GAF among local Swiss actors such as Swiss Public administration meetings, Swiss-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Sustainable finance meetings in Geneva (e.g. Building Bridges), etc.

Programme Values-driven Entrepreneurship has been exploring the possibility to create for the group of faith-based entrepreneurs from Uzbekistan a training program with a possible certification via Swiss education institutions. contacts have been taken with an interest to have a joint activity in the middle term. A new activity has been developed in cooperation with Latin America in order to explore the creation of a support group and structure to help local faith-driven entrepreneurs and investors to organize value-driven activities.

Programme Philanthropy was internationally pausing due to lack of means, but it was very active in China through the partner organization Liaoning Agape Foundation.

Programme Values-driven Investment had an intense activity both regarding the conference from Spring 2021 and since August 2021 the preparation of the international conference in January 2022. The program was developed with the former partners, FaithInvest, World Evangelical Alliance Business and World Council of Churches with new partners and participants. Publications: Work in progress in the publication of a book on China-Ethiopia by Liu Baocheng from CIBE, China.

Communication: Translation of the website www.gafoundation.world in Spanish and French and full translation in Chinese. Communication through the newsletter and with partners through events/conferences.

Partnerships: the existing 15 partnership agreements, mainly with academic centers, remained stable. The strategic partnership with the Amity Foundation in China remained important as it secured the majority of the funding.

Finance: the audited accounts show a total income of CHF CHF 114'146 and total expenses of CHF 302'604 with a loss of CHF 185'350.

The Board of Foundation held all its meetings online due to the Covid pandemic. New Board members have been appointed in May and November 2021, with a member resigning on September and another one in December 2021. The new Executive Director Dr Nicoleta Acatrinei started in June 2021.



Programme 3



Programme 1

GAF Programmes Programme Values-driven Investments

- 4th International Faith-based Investment Conferences
 2021: FaithInvest Impactful Cooperation, 17-18 January for Europe/US/Asia and 5 March for Africa/Europe, both online due to Covid
- 2 5th International Faith-based Investment Conferences 2022: Scaling-up Opportunities and Partnerships, 21st January, Geneva/Switzerland Hybrid in place and online. The topic aimed at from words to actions, from top-down to bottom-up initiatives, on faiths and of their role and actions in investments aligned with their values. This Geneva Conference opened an Agora, a hub, where diverse actors from international institutions and governments to faiths organizations and investment world key players discussed about joint investment-related solutions to address the wounds of the world expressed in the SGDs, in various Climate focused initiatives, in social impact enterprises. -For the first time, GAF has benefited from the creation of

an mobile app dedicated to participants in order to share projects and create a community of actors focusing on convergent objectives, offered by the partner called Commissioned.

3 Other projects such as the investment directory, oikosinvest (www.oikosinvest.org) and Oxi-Zen for Co2 absorbtion capacity continued their cooperation with GAF. See GAF Annual Report 2020, page 5.



http://gafoundation.world/en/programmes/programme-3



GAF Programmes Programme Values-driven Entrepreneurship

Supporting Christian Entrepreneurs from Uzbekistan:

- to organize a fait-driven entrepreneurial network and activity in Central Asia
- Training them, eventually, designing a certificate allowing them to access local business resources, facilitating access to financial resources
- Supporting them spiritually through classes on prayer and biblical resources
- Christian entrepreneurs in the Islam world are accompanied and supported
- Pilot project for certification purposes Extending impact of GAF in Central Asia

The Agape Guests Interviews:

Launching a series of interviews with business actors of faith who have integrated their believes in daily life either through business activities or other initiatives faith-driven that have an impact on their own life as well as the life of the community where they are active.

Two objectives:

a) creating testimonies that could inspire other faith-driven actors in their desire to integrate faith and business

b) creating a place where one can find answers to questions related to faith and business thorough direct interaction with experienced faith-driven actor

Latin America project:

GAF supported a group of NGOs (e.g. CREAS) to explore the possibility to create a fait-driven impact investing network in Latin America by:

- Helping to identify relevant actors and strategy of organization of a new impact investing entity
- Auditing and the evaluation of partners and feasibility of the new structure.
- Co-organizing events
- Co-publications
- Partnering with the new structure and with other local potential partners

Trainings in Geneva/Switzerland, Uzbekistan, China.



http://gafoundation.world/en/programmes/programme-1



Staff and Interns



In 2021, major staff developments happened: Dr. Nicoleta Acatrinei started as new Executive Director (ED) of GAF as of 1 June. She replaced Dr. Christoph Stückelberger, who was part time ED since 2016 and became president as of 1 June. Prior to GAF, Dr. Acatrinei was a researcher and lecturer on business and faith at the prestigious Princeton University in USA and before that at the University of Lausanne. She was originally a banker. Mr. Haicun Kong, Swiss and Chinese with a master in law and in environment, joined the team on 1 April for projects and finance. Ms Hong Buy-Ridell, Programme Executive Communication and Ms Elvira Camigliano, Admin Assistant, continued as long term staff. The enlargement of the team was possible due to a confirmed substantial donation for five years. Unfortunately, in August it became clear, that this donation will not come! GAF had to take immediate action by terminating the work contracts of Ms Hong Buy-Rydell, Mr. Haicun Kong and of Ms Elvira Camigliano. GAF regrets the termination and thanks all three staff for their important,

committed work and passion for GAF!

In 2021, GAF also hosted a special programme on Vietnam Ethics in business, under leadership of Dr. Anh Tho Andres, a Vietnamese-Swiss expert with a PhD in Management.

As every year, GAF welcomed two interns from SIT in Nyon/Switzerland, an exchange programme with American bachelor students: Drew Thomas, a senior student at Bucknell University in Pennsylvania, United States pursuing a bachelor's degree in Accounting and Financial Management. Garrett Hall, student at the School of International Learning where he was learning all about the future of sustainable finance and banking practices.

Partners

The strategic partners are FaithInvest and the Amity Foundation in China

- Academy of Religion in Minzu University of China, Beijing
- Amity Foundation, Nanjing, China
- Boston Westwood Foundation, Boston, USA
- Bringspring Science and Technology Co., Ltd., Shenyang, China
- Center for Religion and Society in East China Normal University, Shanghai, China
- Center for Study of Religion and Business Ethics of Renmin University of China, Beijing

Christian Art and Literature Study Center of Beijing Normal University, China Faith and Business,

- FaithInvest, Bristol, United Kingdom
- Globethics.net Foundation, Geneva, Switzerland
- Institute of Sino-Christian Studies, Hongkong
- Kingdom Business College, various cities, China
- Lavington United Church, Kenya
- Liaoning Agape Foundation, Shenyang, China
- Love Harmony and Trust Investment Company, Shenyang, China
- Research Center of Faith and Entrepreneurship in Minzu University of China, Beijing
- Uzbekistan Association of Values-driven Entrepreneurs

Board of the Foundation

The Board is the supreme governing body of the Geneva Agape Foundation. As a foundation under Swiss law, it is supervised by the Swiss Federal Authorities in the Ministry of Interior Affairs, which ensures transparency, accountability and sustainability.

The international Board is composed of 7 members from Europe and China. As the Foundation was initiated and at the beginning, to a substantial extent, funded by the Chinese entrepreneur and professor of economics Cui Wantian, China-Europe cooperation is still key and reflected in the composition of the Board.

The Board held four meetings in 2021, all of them online due to the travel restrictions caused by the Covid pandemic. Key topics were the GAF Strategy 2021-2025 and, from June 2021, the financial difficulties and change in strategy and activities.

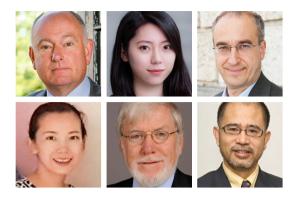


GAF Accounts 2021

The External Review of the GAF 2021 Financial Statements, provided by Oryon SARL, Mathieu Everaere, has been approved by the Board.

Assets 2021 (in CHF)	
Current Assets	
Cash in Bank	10'099
Accrued Income	15'587
Total Assets	25'686
Liabilities and Fund Balances (in CHF)	
Liabilities	
Accrued expenses	48'879
Total Liabilities	48'879
Fund Balances	
Foundation capital	
Foundation capital, beginning	50'000
add: Income during the period	-
Foundational Fund Balance, end	50'000
General Funds	
General funds, beginning	115'266
Income during the period	188'459
General Fund Balance, end	73'193
Total Funds	23'193
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	25'686

Income 2021 (in CHF)	
Donations for GAF Programmes and Services	23'354
Donation for projects and conferences	90'792
Total Income	114'146
Expenditures 2021 (in CHF)	
GAF Core Programmes	
Programme 1: Values-driven Entrepreneurship	59'588
Programme 2: Innovative Philanthropy	5'902
Programme 3: Values-driven Investments	50'924
GAF Partner Programmes International	
Vietnamese Program	5'600
GAF Communication, Marketing, Fundraising	
Communications, website and fundraising	52'577
GAF Governance and Administration	
GAF Governance - board meetings	-
GAF Management and Administration	41'845
GAF Office and Infrastructure	76'168
Provisions for risks and uncollectible accounts	10'000
Total Expenses	302'604
Add: Reversal of Provisions	-
Income or deficit (-)	-188'458



GAF Board (as of 31 Dec 2021)

Christoph Stückelberger, Prof. Dr. President (as of 1 June 2021) Roland Schatz, Member as of 1 June 2021, President until 30 April) Joy Cadangen, Treasurer (from 1 April 2021 until 31 Dec 2021) Jean-Pierre Sweerts, Dr, Member (until 31 Dec 2021) Liu Baocheng, Prof. Dr., Member Fan Rong, Member Cui Ruitong, Member You Bin, Prof. Dr., Member



GAF Staff 🕯

Nicoleta Acatrinei, Dr., Executive Director (as of 1 June 2021) Hong Bui-Rydell, Program Executive Communication (until Jan 2022) Elvira Camigliano, Administration Assistant (until July 2021) Haicun Kong, Executive Assistant/Programme Officer (April-November 2021) Wang Dan, Dr. Coordinator GAF China Beijing Office Zhang Yu, Dr., Coordinator GAF China Shenyang Office

http://gafoundation.world/en/about-us





Agape: Works of Love

- "You gave me to eat"
- "You gave me to drink"
- "You invited me as a stranger"
- "You clothed me"
- "You cared for me when sick"
- "You visited me when in prison"
- Summary of the Bible (Matthew 25:35-40)

Agape/Love comes true by working for the SDGs



The Geneva Agape Foundation is committed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals SDGs 2015-2030, especially goals 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 12, 17.

Geneva Agape Foundation



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Share your Knowledge	Research
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